

# Subject-Verb Agreement C

**8c.** The number of a subject is not changed by a phrase or clause following the subject.

**EXAMPLES** This **collection** of myths and legends **is** fascinating.  
The **flowers** that I planted in the front yard **are** in need of water.

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, underline the verb in parentheses that agrees with its subject.

- Example 1.** The book in which I found these facts and figures (belongs, belong) to Ms. Najera.
1. The last people off the ship (carry, carries) their own luggage.
  2. This anthology of short stories (include, includes) at least one story by Charles Baxter.
  3. Songs about love often (make, makes) me cry.
  4. Jim's brother, who is an art director for television sitcoms in Hollywood, (is, are) a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
  5. The demolition of a skyscraper always (draw, draws) a crowd.
  6. At the end of the story, the king of the birds (declare, declares), "I grant the eagle's request!"
  7. The solution to all of our problems (is, are) to start the project over again from scratch.
  8. The potatoes from the garden (was, were) peeled before they were put into the pot.
  9. Two types of salad (was, were) served first.
  10. The sound of the passing ships (echo, echoes) through the fog.

**EXERCISE B** In each of the following sentences, circle the subject of the verb in parentheses. Then, underline the verb in parentheses that agrees with the subject.

**Example 1.** My favorite book of short stories (is, are) *Tales of Mystery and Imagination* by Edgar Allan Poe.

11. The students in my karate class (watch, watches) carefully whenever the instructor demonstrates a move.
12. The jar of lima beans (was, were) stored in the coolest section of the cellar.
13. The birthday cards that I received this year (is, are) mostly from out of town.
14. The two men, who both work the third shift at the police department, (sleep, sleeps) during the day.
15. The judges on the panel (decide, decides) which skaters will continue to the semifinals.